

# ***Rhynchosia hainesiana* Satyan. et Thoth. (Fabaceae)- A new record for Southern Peninsular India**

**K. Sri Rama Murthy, T. Pullaiah and S. Sandhya Rani**

Department of Botany, Sri Krishnadevaraya University,  
Anantapur - 515003, Andhra Pradesh, India

## **Abstract**

*Rhynchosia hainesiana* Satyan. et Thoth. is reported for the first time from Southern Peninsular India. Detailed description, illustration and relevant notes of this taxon are given.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The genus *Rhynchosia* Lour. with about 300 species (Santapau & Henry, 1973) is distributed in tropical and sub-tropical regions. Sanjappa (1991) reported 25 species of *Rhynchosia* from India. Recently van der Maesen (1995) added another species viz., *Rhynchosia courtallensis*, by transferring South Indian *Dunbaria latifolia* Wight & Arn.

While studying the Faboideae of Eastern Ghats, we collected an interesting specimen of *Rhynchosia* from Geddamanugu Kondur, Krishna district in Andhra Pradesh. After a critical study of specimen and relevant literature, it was identified as *Rhynchosia hainesiana* Satyan. Thoth. So far it is reported only from Angul forests of Orissa by Satyanarayana and Thothathri (1986). The taxon is described and illustrated here.

***Rhynchosia hainesiana* Satyan. et Thoth. in Bull. Bot. Surv. India 28 : 243. 1986.**

Erect undershrub, up to 75 cm height, branchlets erect, minutely hirsute with stiff, spreading, white canescent hairs, resinous gland-dotted. Stipules 1-1.5 mm long, linear, persistent, pubescent, exstipellate. Leaves 3-foliolate, 1-3 cm long, leaflets narrowly lanceolate, 0.6-1.6 x 0.1-0.5 cm, base cuneate, apex acute, margin recurved (folded towards lower surface), greenish with glandular hairs above, white silky with minute hairs beneath, petiole 4-8 mm long, petiolule 0.5-1 mm. Racemes axillary, to 1 cm long, peduncle 3-5 mm long; Flowers ca 8 mm across, pedicel very slender, 2-3 mm long, grey pubescent. Bracts 1 mm long, subulate, densely canescent, persistent. Calyx campanulate, tube ca 1 mm long, lobes unequally divided, to 3 mm long, pubescent with glandular hairs. Corolla yellow, standard orbicular, ca 5 x 4 mm, rounded at apex, claw ca 1 mm, auricles very minute; wings ca 4 x 1 mm, narrowly obovate, rounded at apex; keels ca 4 x 1.5 mm, falcate, rounded at apex. Stamens diadelphous (9+1), staminal sheath ca 5 x 1.5 mm; filaments 1-1.5 mm long; anthers uniform, ca 0.4 x 0.2 mm. Ovary glabrous, 2-ovulate, ca 1.7 mm

K. Sri Rama Murthy *et al.*

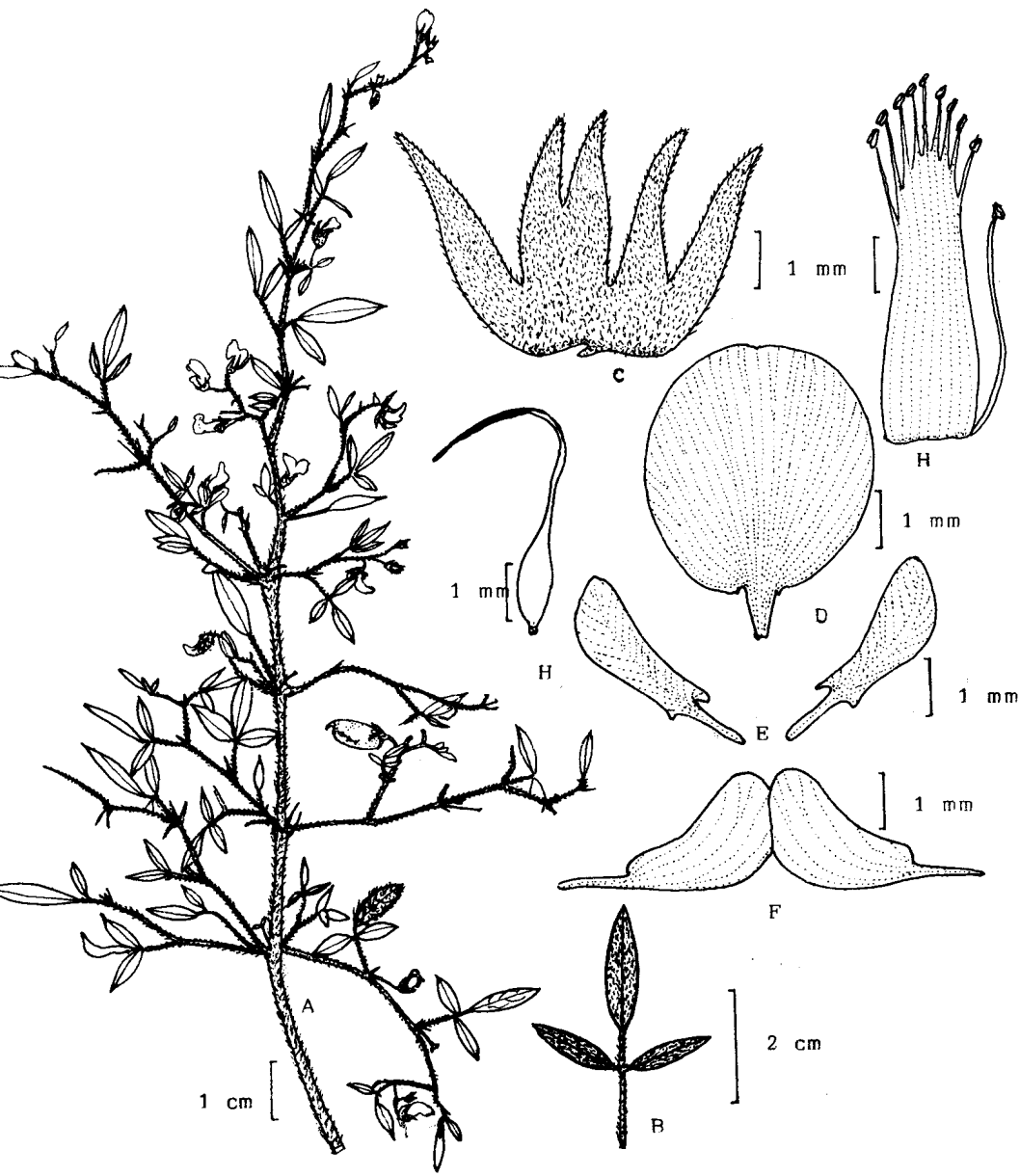


Fig 1. *Rhynchosia hainesiana* Satyan. et Thoth. : A. Twig; B. Leaf; C. Calyx split open; D. Standard petal; E. Wing petals; F. Keel petals; G. Stamens; H. Pistil.

***Rhynchosia hainesiana***

long; style ca 6 mm long, curved, slightly broadened above, stigma capitate. Pods ca 1 x 0.5 cm, oblong, glabrescent, beak incurved, 2-seeded.

*Fls. & Frs.* : March-April.

*Distribution* : Andhra Pradesh and Orissa - endemic.

*Specimens examined* : Geddammannugu Kondur; Krishna district, KSM 17638.

**Acknowledgements**

The first author (KSM) is thankful to CSIR, New Delhi for the award of SRF.

**Literature cited**

- Sanjappa, M. 1991. *Legumes of India*, Bishen Singh Mahendra Pal Singh, Dehra Dun.
- Santapau, H. & A.N. Henry. 1973. *A Dictionary of the Flowering plants in India*, New Delhi.
- Satyanarayana, P. & K. Thothathri. 1986. Three New species of *Rhynchosia* Lour. (Fabaceae) from India. *Bull. Bot. Surv. India*. 28 : 241-246.
- van der Maesen, L.J.G. 1995. *Rhynchosia courtallensis* van der Maesen a new name for the South Indian *Durbaria latifolia* Wt. & Arn. (Leguminosae-Papilionoideae), *Rheedia*, 5 (1) : 54-59.